

MIT's Oldest and
Largest Newspaper

tech.mit.edu



WEATHER, p. 2

TUE: 48°F | 32°F
Afternoon showers
WED: 37°F | 22°F
Mostly sunny
THU: 35°F | 25°F
Partly cloudy

Volume 133, Number 5

Tuesday, February 19, 2013

Brass Rat unveiled:
2015 Ring Premiere
Ring features Pokémon, Curiosity

By Bruno B.F. Faviero
STAFF REPORTER

It was a chilly 37-degrees as the Class of 2015 began to amass along the perimeter of Kresge on Friday. They came in droves — fraternities, sororities, halls, clubs — all individual groups, and yet on this night united for one reason: the premiere of the Class of 2015 Brass Rat.

As one of the few events that brings the whole class together, it almost felt like a tailgating party. Each group entertained itself in different ways: One sang Jason Mraz’ “I’m Yours” to the rhythm of a ukulele, another belted out the “Engineers’ Drinking Song” and some sort of ode to East Campus.

Others were discussing what might be on the ring. The Curiosity Mars rover and a DeLorean (the future of *Back to the Future II* is set in 2015) were guessed by a few students. The growing line snaked around Kresge, and by 7:10 p.m. it

was already close to the door of the Z-Center.

At 7:45, the doors opened and people slowly trickled in as each of the first 600 got a ticket for the giveaways. One lucky ’15, Audrey A. Sedal, won a free Brass Rat for being the 15th in line — clever. On the inside, it almost seemed like a class reunion — people gave each other flying hugs, and groups coordinated their clothes or body paint, or had signs with the name of the person they were there to cheer for. Ringcomm taking the stage turned into a shouting match of whose name could be screamed the loudest.

I made the mistake of sitting next to the Alpha Phi and Sigma Kappa sections, and so all I heard for the rest of the night was “MEGHAN!!!” and “WE LOVE COLLEEN!” When Ringcomm Chair Matthew T. “Matt” Abel ’15 and



BRUNO B.F. FAVIERO—THE TECH
Ring Committee Chair Matthew T. Abel ’15 and Vice Chair Michelle H. Lee ’15 introduce the rest of the committee.

Premiere, Page 7

Macklemore is Spring Weekend headliner

The Undergraduate Association (UA) Events Committee has announced Macklemore featuring Ryan Lewis as the headliner for Spring-Fest 2013, MIT’s annual concert event. The concert will be on April 26 in Johnson, and the opener will be determined in the coming weeks. A survey sent by the committee in the fall showed “overwhelming” support for Macklemore, according to committee mem-

ber Daniela M. Yuschenkoff ’14. The survey included other artists that, according to Yuschenkoff, were not touring far away or recording at the time of the concert, and also asked students what genres of music they would prefer.

Macklemore was a “dominant” choice, said Yuschenkoff. “We’re lucky to have him.” Reactions around campus were mostly positive in a man-on-the-street sur-

vey conducted by *The Tech*, but responses ranged from “Damn, that’s cool” and “I’ll actually go this year,” to “It’s a band I’ve heard of” and “who is Macklemore?”

Tickets will go on pre-sale for MIT students only on March 1 for \$15. General public tickets will go on sale on March 8, costing \$20 for MIT student and \$25 for non-MIT purchasers.

—Bruno B.F. Faviero

Small crowd attends first State of the Undergraduate Association address

Monday night marked the first State of the UA address, headed by UA President Jonte D. Craighead ’13.

“I am confident in saying that [the UA] is in a much better position than we were two years ago,” Craighead said at the opening of the forum.

About 20 students attended the forum portion of the event, with more students around at the end just to eat the food. Craighead mentioned that the address was meant to be an experimental addition to the periodic UA study breaks that occur throughout the term — he attributed low attendance to the timing of the event, both to being earlier in the evening and falling on a Monday after a long weekend, when students are likely to be inside doing work.

In relation to how the UA’s performance now compared to before the reconstruction, Craighead that it would be “much more difficult in the old structure” to get the things done that the UA has in the past year. Craighead said

that it is much easier to make validate a statement about student opinion when you have the student leaders of the living groups — each of the dorm presidents and representatives from the IFC, Panhel, and the ILGs — all in the same place at the UA Council meetings.

The speech was given in parts by Craighead, Vice President Michael P. Walsh ’13, Chair of the UA committee on education Naren P. Tallapragada ’13, Secretary General Christine M. Sowa ’14, and Finboard Chair Johnathan Kongoletos ’14. The presentation outlined what the UA has been doing in the past semester and some of the initiatives that they have put forth, such as the Costco-Target shuttle. The main motivation behind giving these presentations, according to Craighead, was to reach out to the students more and let them know that the UA is actively working to improve life for students on campus.

—Stan Gill



EMILY KELLISON-LINN—THE TECH
A large crowd gathers at the Harvard-MIT Math Tournament awards ceremony on Saturday evening in 26-100.

IN SHORT

Minor completion forms for final-term seniors are due this Friday.

The deadline for CPW events is this Friday!

Choose to Re-Use is this Thursday at the mirror sculpture in Stata. Bring stuff starting at 8 a.m., and come to grab things at 11 a.m.

PSC Summer expedition grant applications are due on Feb. 22. Check <http://web.mit.edu/mitpsc/expedition> for more information.

The deadline for EECSCon submissions is tonight at midnight! Turn in your abstract at <http://eecsccon.mit.edu>.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

FROM MENTEE
TO MENTOR
On research and lessons learned from your mentors.
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 9

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY...
Thomas Edison patented the phonograph on Feb. 19, 1878.
AND EXACTLY 11 YEARS AGO...
NASA’s Mars Odyssey began mapping the surface of planet Mars.



THE UNVEILING OF
THE 2015 BRASS RAT
And another class sees their future Brass Rats! Inside the 2015 Ring Premiere. PHOTO, p. 8

LUNAR NEW YEAR
AWAY FROM HOME
Crowding into Ashdown to celebrate the holiday.
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 9

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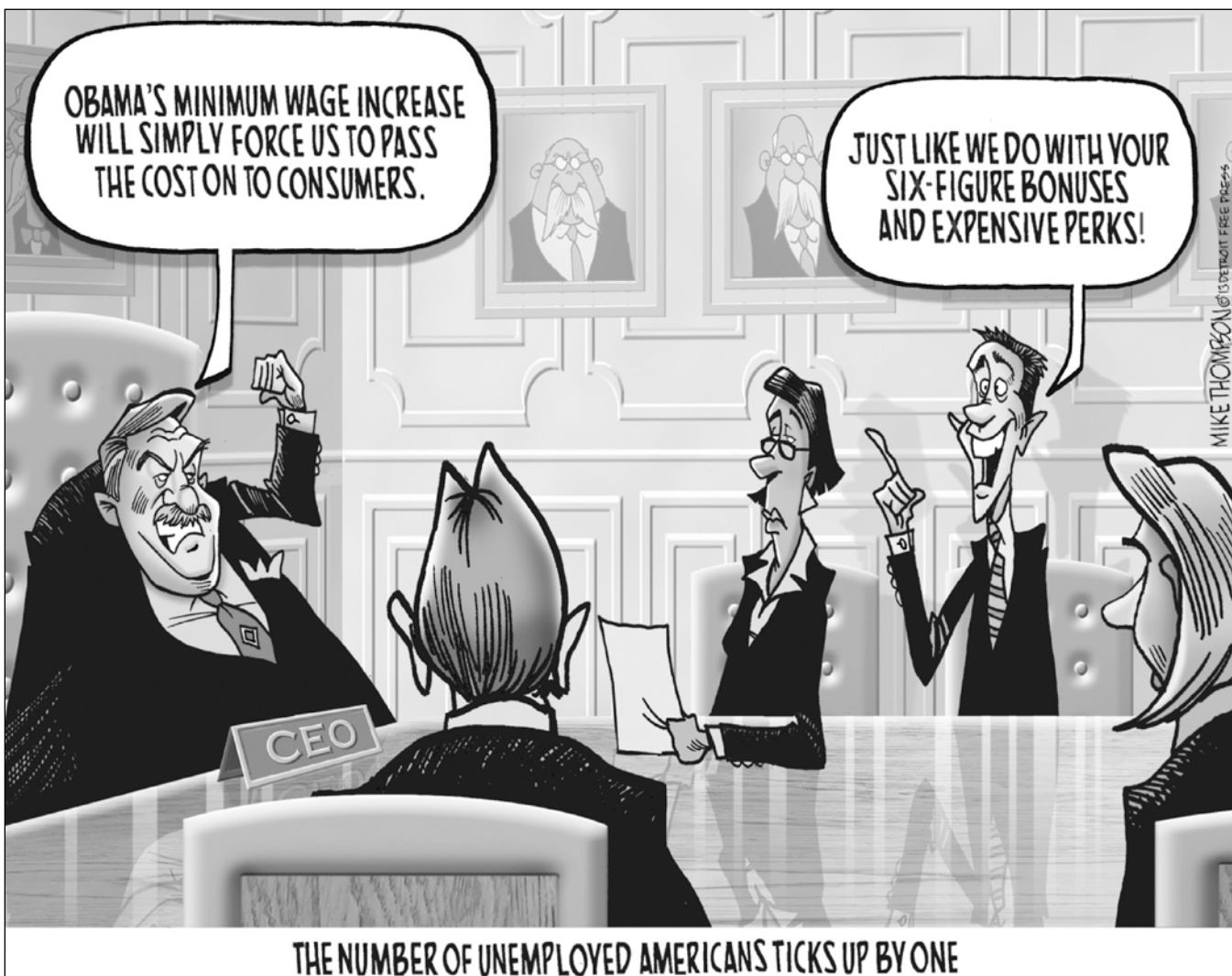
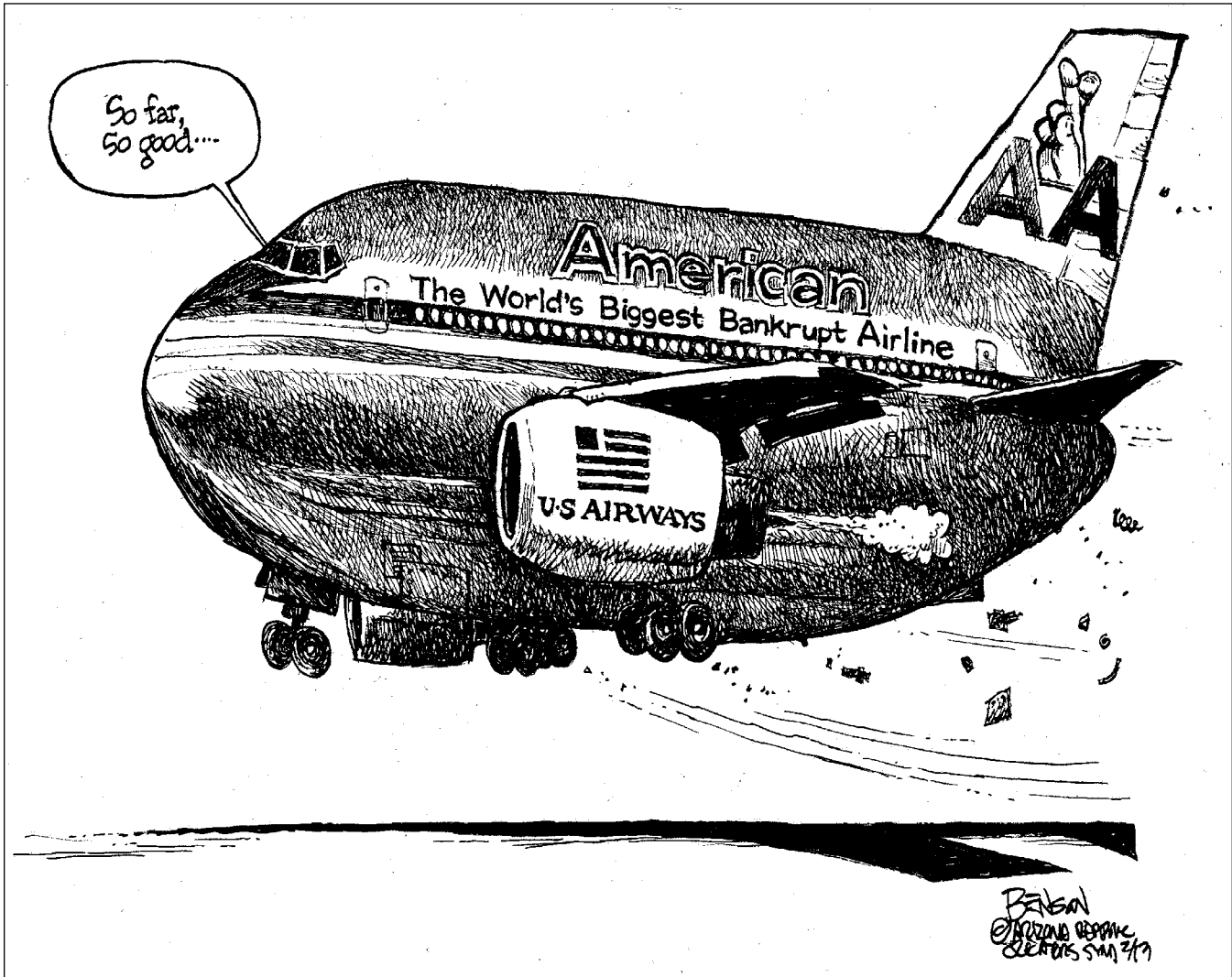
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The Tech (ISSN 0191-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$50.00 per year (third class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541, Business: (617) 258-8324, Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © **2013 The Tech.** Printed on recycled paper by Mass Web Printing Company.



A story in Friday's issue on the CPW event cap mistakenly indicated that DormCon lowered the cap, when in fact it was the Admissions Office. The same article named Kelly E. Snyder '14 CPW Chair of East Campus; she actually the president of EC.

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PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER

by Jorge Cham

Recently, i was contacted by the White House:

Jorge, we need your help.

Ok, it didn't happen quite like that, but they did ask me to help spread the word about the upcoming "Sequester" and how it will impact Academic research. So here it is:

U.S. Budget Sequestration Explained

The Debt Ceiling Crisis
The U.S. Treasury tells Congress that the government will exceed the maximum amount it can borrow and run out of money to pay its bills on August 2, 2011.

The Budget Control Act of 2011
At the last minute, lawmakers strike a deal that:
- Raises the Debt Ceiling
- Creates a deadline: A law must be passed that reduces the deficit by Jan. 2, 2013, otherwise there will be an automatic cut in all areas of discretionary spending (the "Sequester").

The Fiscal Cliff Crisis
Congress did not pass a deficit reduction law. Along with the expiration of the Bush-era tax cuts, the U.S. faces a sudden and steep shock to the system (the "Fiscal Cliff") on Jan. 2, 2013.

The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012
At the last minute, lawmakers pass a law that:
- Resolves Taxation levels (a mix of the Bush-era tax cuts and new levels)
- Extends the deadline of the Sequester to March 1, 2013.

March 1, 2013
Unless there is further compromise, the Sequester will result in across-the-board cuts to Domestic spending, including approximately:
8% cuts to Research Spending

What 8% looks like:
In terms of body mass:

An arm
And a leg

In terms of \$\$ amounts:
Cuts to NIH: \$2.52 Billion
Cuts to NSF: \$586 Million
Cuts to NASA: \$1.46 Billion
Cuts to DOE Research: \$400 Million
Cuts to FDA: \$319 Million

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Saturday Stumper

Solution, page 12

ACROSS

- 1 Divine
- 8 Mobile home
- 15 Duties, customs, etc.
- 16 Car collector
- 17 Far-out locale
- 18 Camaraderie
- 19 Word as rhymeless as "pint"
- 20 See to it
- 21 Refinement candidate
- 22 World Team Chess powerhouse
- 25 QM2 destination
- 26 Bus patron
- 28 String __
- 29 Sales bread-and-butter
- 30 Tip or top
- 31 Volvo purchase of 2000
- 34 Tip or top
- 35 Like
- 36 Video player pause control, often
- 43 Name on the street
- 44 Self-taught group
- 48 Part of Bill Gates' full name
- 49 Whopper

- 50 Great deal
- 51 About to fail, perhaps
- 53 Strike out
- 55 Discipline
- 56 Live it up
- 58 One from Rhodes
- 59 Punchy?
- 60 Makes known
- 61 Formal compensation

DOWN

- 1 Trailers and fliers
- 2 Make known
- 3 Plane, for example
- 4 Hollow spot
- 5 Fit
- 6 Aural guide
- 7 Leaves in the pantry
- 8 See to
- 9 Dripping more
- 10 Pops up
- 11 Hard knocks
- 12 Came (to)
- 13 Causing audience tears, quite possibly
- 14 Forerun
- 20 Fix

- 23 Frat letter
- 24 Put a blot on
- 27 Moses' river basket, per Exodus
- 31 Strolling band specialty
- 32 Tevye the Milkman author
- 33 Stretchy part of Pirelli's logo
- 34 Age
- 36 Move slowly
- 37 Biting
- 38 Gets in sync
- 39 IPO funding recipient
- 40 Part of academic addresses
- 41 Started on dinner
- 42 Stuck
- 45 Legal article
- 46 Gets rid of
- 47 "Gallop apace, you fiery-footed __": Shak.

- 52 Dot of tierra
- 54 Show approval, or disapproval

- 56 "What is __" (section of heart.org)
- 57 "Craft" product

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15								16						
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58								59						
60								61						



Techdoku

Solution, page 12

144x		10+	15x		
	2		1-		3
	5x			384x	
30x	3		6		
	240x				6
			3x		5

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

$6x$		
$1-$		$6x$
	3	

6x		6x
3x		
	2x	

7+		3x
4+		
	2x	

Class of 2015 comes together for Ring Premiere

Sophomores cheer on Ringcomm classmates, discover features on this year’s Brass Rat

Premiere, from Page 1

Vice Chair Michelle H. Lee ’15 tried to start the ceremony, each could barely get a sentence out without the crowd interrupting. Michelle’s voice rose to a shout over the raving audience. “This is going to take a really long time,” said Abel into

rean next to the Hancock tower — a reference to the fact that part of *Back to the Future II* took place in 2015. There was also the usual two sets of crew shells, this year with one and five rowers in the boats, and a sailboat whose sail read “15.” Fenway also made an appearance, commemorating its 100th anniversary

The presentation of the ring began with the Hacker’s Map, which is — for the first time — cast into the ring, meaning it won’t wear down with years of use.

the microphone as the Chi Phis shouted “Abell!”, “Queeney!”, and even “Kalas!” as Jeremy J. Kalas ’16 took down names of the giveaway winners in the corner.

When Michael O. Flynn ’15 took to the podium, he asked: “Where has the rum gone?” The answer, it would seem, was that it was consumed by the audience.

The presentation of the ring began with the Hacker’s Map, which is — for the first time — cast into the ring, meaning it won’t wear down with years of use. It was subtle on the inside of the ring; I could barely feel the narrow, cast tunnels on my finger when I tried on a ring later.

Next was the Boston side of the ring. The outline was of Boston at night, and featured a flying Delo-

sary celebrated in 2012.

Next was the Cambridge side — oh boy. Simmons was the only dorm shown from West Campus, which caused quite a stir in the audience. People began to either cheer, or boo and shout “Baker!”, “Bexley!”, and even “Building 36!” (the last one coming from the Bexley contingent). “We wanted to show the scope of the campus, from Simmons all the way to East Campus,” Chair Matt Abel would later say. Or as former Simmons resident and Ringcomm member John K. “Jack” Queeney put it: “because Simmons is the cultural center of campus.” There was a shooting star as a symbol of “hope and ... Stellar crashing,” and the entire horizon was underscored by a double pendulum with Golden

proportions.

This entire time, the Sigma Kappa/Alpha Phi section would continue to stand up with shouts of “Meghan!” and “We love Colleen!”, independent of who was on stage. When Alpha Phi Meghan E. Torrence ’15 took the stage, I could hardly hear a complete sentence she said over the cheering.

On the shanks, on the Lobby 10 side, the dome reads “M MXV ” as hackers escape off Building 10 holding the missing numerals. On the seal side, the Curiosity rover is seen on the edge of the seal itself.

Next came the fun part — the joke bezel. After the committee was introduced, Kira S. Kopacz ’15 and Queeney began to present the fake bezel as if it were real. A beaver wearing a “YOLO” shirt sat upon scaffolding, holding a dumbbell and a bowl of Sonoma greens to represent MIT’s “health-conscious” student body, while the B1W ambulance sped across the Harvard Bridge, representing our “work hard, play hard” attitude. Some people seemed to believe this was the actual ring. “What is this ugly shit?” said one audience member incredulously.

“Ring delivery is close to home this year,” they said next, “at the Johnson Track!” A picture of Johnson track set up for finals flashed onto the screen. “No fucking way,”

said someone close to me, their jaw practically dropping as others in the crowd looked similarly worried.

There was a moment of silence as Ringcomm said good night, until Abel and Lee returned to the podium. “That bezel sucked almost as much as the ’14’s” said Abel, getting an explosive response from the audience that came back to life, and boos from the Class of 2014 Ringcomm on the balcony.

One of the more popular appearances was that of Dragonair, the 148th Pokémon, swimming in the corner (the Class of 2015 is the 148th graduating class).

The real bezel was, as usual, full of small, special features. The Green Building was lit up as if in a Tetris game, adorned with a basketball to represent the MIT men’s basketball team’s ascent to the Final Four. A lightning bolt in the back hearkened back to our class’s Harry Potter-themed orientation, though it was also in the shape of a molecule in a chair conformation to commemorate the International Year of Chemistry in 2011.

One of the more popular appearances, getting a strongly positive audience reaction, was that of Dragonair, the 148th Pokémon,

swimming in the corner (the Class of 2015 is the 148th graduating class). Of all the features, I hope this one continues so that the Class of 2018 can have a Mew flying around. The Beaver itself faced Boston but gazed back at Cambridge, and swatted away eight ivy leaves. The veins on each leaf spelled out the first letter of each Ivy League school’s name, and the Harvard is seen sinking into the river, having been swat-

ted by the beaver’s tail.

Next came the actual Ring Delivery location — Fenway Park. I have to say that I was surprised, but the audience seemed to love it, and it was a great note to end the night on. After the ceremony, the audience descended upon Kresge Lobby in droves, forming mobs in front of the tables of goodie bags and ring displays.

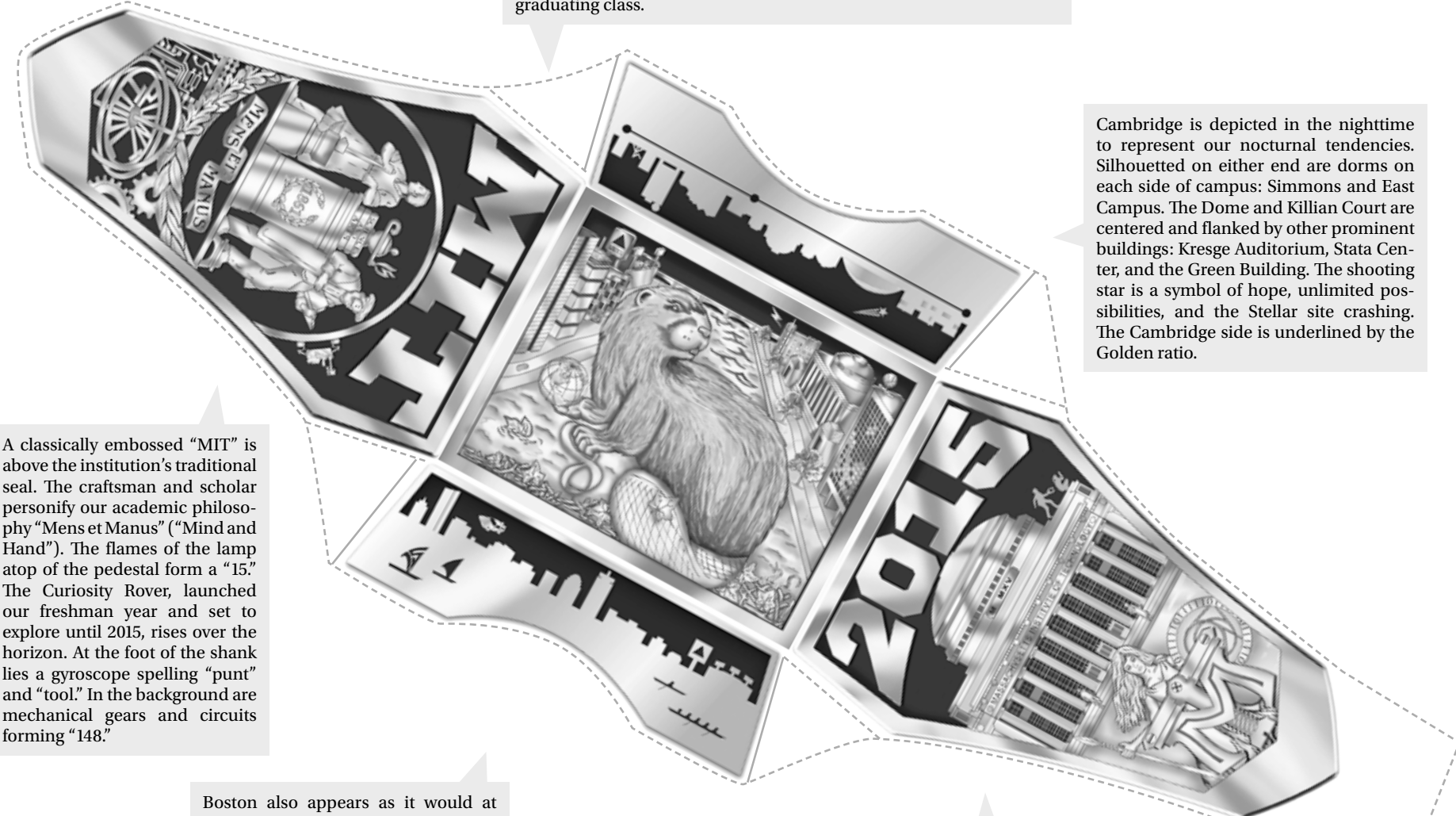
Overall, the ’15s seemed excited about the ring and ring delivery, but I think Abraham I. Garza ’15 summed up the thoughts of many: “First I have to get through the semester.”

2015
rat

The 2015 beaver sits on a self-made dam, while swatting eight ivy leaves. He is oriented towards Boston but looks back towards Cambridge. Our beaver holds the world and a Mobius Strip. The bezel’s backdrop features Boston and Cambridge connected by the Mass. Ave. Bridge, with “IHTFP” engraved in the waves. An astronaut footprint is imprinted into the Esplanade in memoriam of Neil Armstrong. The lightning bolt, reminiscent of our Harry Potter-themed orientation, is the shape of an organic chair confirmation for the International Year of Chemistry. The Maseeh clock tower is set to 9:26 p.m., when many heard of their admission on pi day, and a tree in front of Killian Court is blown over by Hurricanes Irene and Sandy. A basketball on top of the Green Building memorializes Men’s Basketball advancing to the Final Four, and the windows are illuminated like the Tetris hack. We gave our beaver a companion in Dragonair, the 148th Pokémon, as we are the 148th graduating class.

Make your own
2015 rat!

CUT ON THE DOTTED LINES,
FOLD ON THE SOLID LINES



A classically embossed “MIT” is above the institution’s traditional seal. The craftsman and scholar personify our academic philosophy “Mens et Manus” (“Mind and Hand”). The flames of the lamp atop of the pedestal form a “15.” The Curiosity Rover, launched our freshman year and set to explore until 2015, rises over the horizon. At the foot of the shank lies a gyroscope spelling “punt” and “tool.” In the background are mechanical gears and circuits forming “148.”

Boston also appears as it would at night. Marked silhouettes include the Hancock Tower, Prudential Center, Back Bay Brownstones, and Citgo Sign. Fenway, the location of the Class of 2015 Ring Delivery, makes another appearance having just celebrated its 100th anniversary. The DeLorean is a reference to *Back to the Future*, set in 2015. The rowers in the two racing shells form a “15,” as do the sails of the two dinghies.

2015 is emblazoned over the Great Dome. The MCMXVI on the face of the dome, representing the year MIT relocated to Cambridge from Boston, has been robbed of its C and I by hackers, leaving our class year “MMXV.” President Reif climbs up the stairs, and former President Hockfield walks down to symbolize the transition during our freshman year. The Greek goddess Athena, the namesake of our operating system stands strong in Killian Court. She displays the right-hand rule as she clasps the spear adorned with a DNA strand commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Human Genome Project in 2015. The shield reads “2015” in binary and features the CERN logo for the detection of the Higgs boson. The nuts and bolts insignia completes the class shank. The central screw of the “T” is also tightened to read “x” for the MITx initiative.

Cambridge is depicted in the nighttime to represent our nocturnal tendencies. Silhouetted on either end are dorms on each side of campus: Simmons and East Campus. The Dome and Killian Court are centered and flanked by other prominent buildings: Kresge Auditorium, Stata Center, and the Green Building. The shooting star is a symbol of hope, unlimited possibilities, and the Stellar site crashing. The Cambridge side is underlined by the Golden ratio.



The joke bezel is presented before the real design of the ring. In front of the B1W ambulance crossing the bridge, the beaver is wearing a “YOLO” shirt and holding a Sonoma greens salad.

BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH

CLASS OF 2015 RING PREMIERE



A group of Sigma Kappa members hold up signs with the faces of the two Sigma Kappa members of Ring Committee: Coleen K. Gabel '15 and Michelle H. Lee '15.

BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH



A sophomore looks at the sample rings on display in Kresge lobby after the design was unveiled.

BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH



Audrey A. Sedal '15 jumps for joy after winning a free brass rat for being the 15th person in line.

BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH



Students excitedly welcome the members of the 2015 Ring Committee to the stage.

BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH



A line of sophomores waiting to enter Ring Premiere stretches across the front of the Zesiger Center.

BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH

THE SECRET LIFE OF RESEARCHERS

Becoming a mentor

Lessons learned from a pro

By Emily A. Moberg

"True education does not consist merely in the acquiring of a few facts of science, history, literature, or art, but in the development of character."

—David O. McKay

As graduate students, we have been molded by our teachers and our mentors over the past decade of education and are currently (and hopefully!) engaged in one of the most intense mentorship experiences of our lives. We are essentially apprenticed with a researcher and learn all the skills — asking good questions, figuring out how to answer them, troubleshooting equipment failures, writing well, reviewing well, teaching, etc. — that are important in academia. While we are and have been on the mentee side, we are also in training to become mentors ourselves. Sometimes we get a flavor of this through teaching assistantships or working with undergraduates in the laboratory, but I hope that we can embrace learning to mentor as a critical part of our education. We are training to inspire, develop, and mold the students of the future, just as our mentors inspired and helped us along the way.

One of my high school mentors recently passed away, which made me think about

how he embodied mentorship as a lifestyle and exemplified many of the qualities that great teachers possess. I want to share some of the lessons I learned from my high school physics teacher, Mr. Malkovsky.

As a some-day academic, I have a huge amount of work to do to be the kind of mentor that changes lives.

1) It's more of a lifestyle than an activity.

Mr. Mal was always there for his students, after school and before school. He didn't wait for us to come to him; he volunteered his time and energy when it looked like we needed help. He ran our physics Olympics and Science Olympiad teams, which meant he was always in his room surrounded by students building things, doing calculations, or organizing events. He was there to talk to if you wanted advice about careers or managing stress. He let us call him — at any time — about physics problems. I remember call-

ing from physics study group late one night after we'd been jumping off chairs, trying to understand how the momentum could be transferred in a collision; Mr. Mal answered cheerfully and helped us get through the problem.

2) Recognize good work but also equip your students to achieve that good work.

Mr. Mal always recognized good work and motivated us to actually learn and understand the material. After I graduated, he personally purchased plaques for the hallway outside his room to acknowledge students who had taken the AP exam. In the classroom, he made tests and problem sets really hard, but if you did poorly and then went through and re-did the exam correctly, he would give you half the points you had lost back. He really made the emphasis on learning and understanding. He never shied away from making us actually derive equations and never made things easier for us. He set the bar high and believed we could get there. However, he didn't just leave us hanging. When we worked in his room, trying to design a good experiment, he'd walk through the problem with us and ask probing questions to help us get there ourselves.

3) Outside stresses can make or break you.

He understood this and provided support for us just as much in academics as in personal support. I remember one time I was determined to stay in class — despite being obviously ill — so I could take my AP physics exam, so Mr. Mal walked me to the guidance office and told them to take care of rescheduling my exam and under no circumstances to let me take it that day. I wasn't able to make that call myself, but it was definitely the best move. He always challenged me to make choices that made me happy, even if they were hard and scary — like applying to MIT. The first time I came back to visit and Mr. Mal said “you look really happy,” I realized how far I had come and how much he had helped me to get there.

I know that I, as a some-day academic, have a huge amount of work to do to be the kind of mentor that changes lives like Mr. Mal did. In 63 years, he inspired so many students to believe that they could tackle problems we didn't at first believe we could and pursue fields like engineering and math. We've ended up at places like MIT, Yale, Princeton, UVA, Virginia Tech, RPI, UPenn, and many more. Thank you, Mr. Mal, for showing me how to make the most out of life, pushing me to help others do the same, and teaching me how to be a true mentor.

CULTURE ON CAMPUS

A Lunar New Year celebration

Bringing East Asian tradition to Ashdown

By Yi Xue

Lunar New Year celebrations generally evoke images of fireworks, mountains of delicious food, and a table surrounded by family. In most East Asian countries, Lunar New Year is the largest and most important holiday of the year. Unfortunately, on Lunar New Year's Eve this year, Cambridge was engulfed by the snowstorm Nemo, and students were trapped within the confines of their residences. Yet on this dreary February 9th evening, Ashdown House was hosting a Lunar New Year celebration, co-sponsored by ARCADE (Assisting Recurring Cultural And Diversity Events).

Free food is always attractive, not to mention in the middle of such a monstrous snowstorm. Not serving pizza? Even better! Before the scheduled start of the event, serpentine lines had already formed outside of the Hulsizer Room in Ashdown. At 6 p.m. the doors opened, revealing streamers along the ceiling, bright red and gold decorations along the walls, and even some strings of toy fireworks. The sound of cheery New Year's music drifted through the halls.

Close to 250 students crowded into the room with a fervor that was reminiscent of the travel rush to return home during Lunar New Year in China. In front of their eyes lay a feast (by student standards, of course): fried rice, a selection of chicken, pork and vegetable dumplings, and an assortment of side dishes, including steamed buns. Asians and non-Asians alike were delighted and impressed by the quality and quantity of food. "I can't believe a student-organized residence event has vegetarian options!" remarked an excited attendee.

Shockingly, the celebration didn't just end with the food. Along the side of the room were three stations, all showcasing different traditions during Lunar New Year: papercutting, Chinese calligraphy, and dumpling making. Chinese paper cutting, or jianzhi, is the art form of cutting intricate designs of auspicious Chinese characters or zodiac animals from thin paper (generally in red, which symbolizes good fortune). Since paper was invented in China, jianzhi is the first type of papercutting design. Jianzhi are frequently adorned along walls, windows or doors for good luck. In addition to jianzhi, idioms and auspicious words written in calligraphy on red paper also decorate the walls of homes during New Year's. One student masterfully painted out an idiom in Chinese Calligraphy "Tian Dao Chou Qin," meaning "Heaven rewards the diligent."

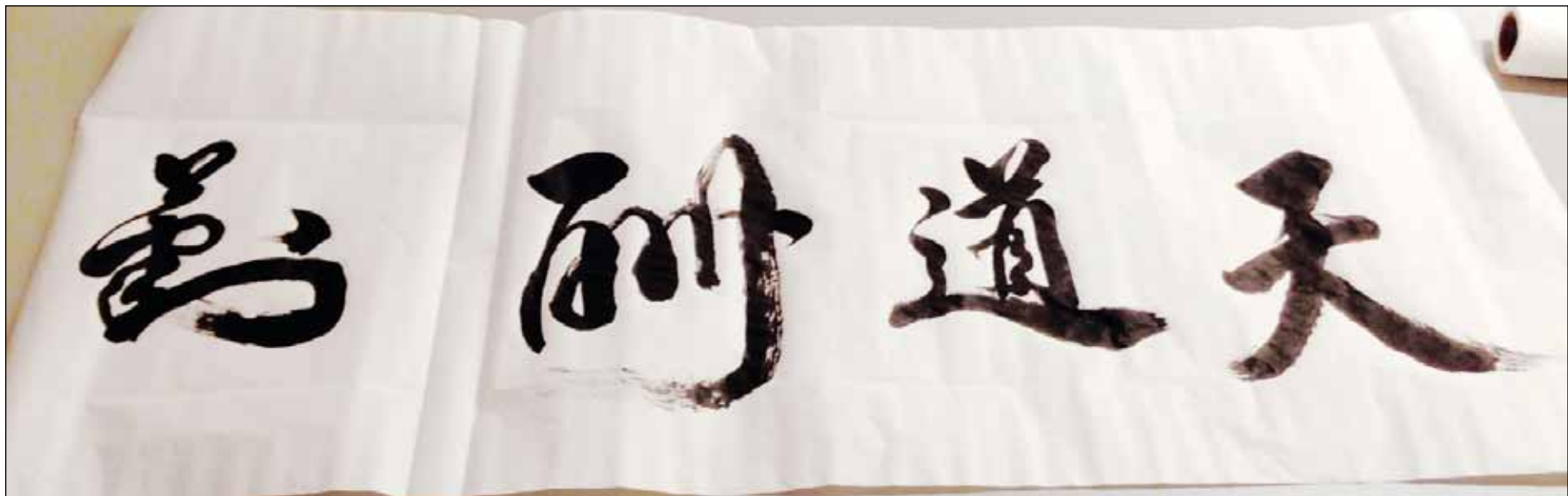
In China, the entire extended family gathers together and makes dumplings at this time of the year. In this event, attendees were able to try their hand at making pork or vegetable dumplings and bring them home to cook later. Additional fun came in the raffle for red envelopes, which is a customary gift from elders in the family to younger generations on occasions such as New Year's (Amazon gift cards were substituted for money).

There couldn't have been a more joyous and festive atmosphere on campus during the remnants of a snowstorm. Many East Asian international students were excited to participate in activities they never imagined they would have outside of their countries. The event evoked memories of home and furthermore, it allowed them to share the experience of Lunar New Year with their peers.



MARCUS WU

Students participate in different Lunar New Year traditions: making dumplings, writing calligraphy, and papercutting.



YI XUE

The Chinese characters for the phrase “Heaven Rewards the Diligent” written in calligraphy by a student lay on a table at the Ashdown Lunar New Year Event.



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EVENTS FEB. 19 – FEB. 25

TUESDAY

(3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.) Contrasting Secular & Religious Agenda Terror and Guerrilla Warfare: From Che Guevara to Osama bin Laden — E40-496

(5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) Convergence Journalism? Emerging Documentary and Multimedia forms of News panel — E14-633

WEDNESDAY

(5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.) Kevin Jerome Everson: “Recent Practice” multimedia presentation — 5-135

(8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.) FILM + improvisation=FiLmprov!, live improvisational music — 14W-111

THURSDAY

(5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.) Steve Pinker: The Evolutionary Psychology of Religion lecture series — 32-155

(7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) Urban Films: *Street Fight* — 66-110

FRIDAY

(10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.) Using big data to discover tacit knowledge and improve learning DUE Education talk — 3-270

(8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.) An Evening with Jim Gaffigan — W16

SATURDAY

(7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) Mocha Showcase 2013 — Kresge Little

(8:00 p.m.) Queen Esther’s Ball — Walker Memorial Morss Hall

MONDAY

(4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.) Simulating adulthood: Junior republics and the invention of modern youth — E51-095

(5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.) India’s Urban Transformation: The Full Story — E40-496

Send your campus events to events@tech.mit.edu.

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Poverty Action Week

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Schedule of Events

Monday, February 11	7:30 PM	32-144	ID Hack Info Session & Workshop <i>Featuring Microsoft representatives and free Windows 8, Visual Studio Software Access, & dinner sponsored by Microsoft</i>
Tuesday, February 19	7:30 PM	4-145	Microfinance to Macrosolutions <i>Featuring speaker Miguel Herrera, the principal director of Accion Frontier Investing Group. Dinner provided.</i>
Wednesday, February 20	7:30 PM	McCormick Brown Living Room	Policy Makers with a Purpose <i>Roundtable discussion with professors from MIT & Harvard. Registration required, Hors’d’oeuvres served.</i>
Thursday, February 21	7:30 PM	4-163	Improving World Health <i>Featuring a panel of speakers from Vecna Technologies & Partners in Health. Dinner Provided.</i>
Friday, February 22	6:00 PM	Microsoft NERD Ctr.	ID Hack 2013 <i>Ends 10 PM, February 23. International development hackathon featuring over \$1400 in prizes.</i>

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February 21st, 5:30 PM
Room 32-155

A talk by evolutionary psychologist and Harvard Professor

STEVEN PINKER

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Origins of Spirituality in Human Experience: Neuroscience and BuddhismMarch 7
Tenzin Priyadarshi

Purposes and designs: Foundations of adult religious belief in childhoodMarch 21
Deb Kelemen

If religious belief was evolutionarily adaptive, why do nonbelievers exist?.....April 4
Catherine Caldwell-Harris

Neuroimaging of religious experienceApril 18
P. Monroe Butler

Sacrificing Freedom of Mind: How We Fall Prey to Cults and ControllersMay 2
Steven Hassan



Charges proposed for Syria

UN panel urges prosecution for Syrian war crimes

By Nick Cumming-Bruce
THE NEW YORK TIMES

GENEVA — The U.N. Security Council should refer Syria to the International Criminal Court in The Hague to prosecute those responsible for war crimes and other abuses committed in nearly two years of conflict, Carla del Ponte, a U.N. human rights investigator, said Monday.

“Now, really, it’s time — it’s time,” del Ponte said. “We are pressuring the international community to act because it’s time to act.”

Del Ponte was speaking as the U.N. Human Rights Council commission investigating Syria, of which she is a member, reported that violence in Syria was worsening, “aggravated by increasing sectarianism” and radicalized by the increasing presence of foreign fighters. It said the conflict was also “becoming more militarized because of the proliferation of weapons and types of weapons used.”

The panel’s 131-page report detailing evidence of war crimes and other abuses in the six months up to mid-January said, “The issue of accountability for those responsible for international crimes deserves to be raised in a more robust manner to counter the pervasive sense of impunity in the country.”

The top U.N. human rights official, Navi Pillay, has also urged that Syria be referred to the International Criminal Court. Authority to make such a referral, however, lies exclusively with the Security Council or the country concerned.

“It’s incredible the Security Council doesn’t take a decision,” said del Ponte, who had been the chief prosecutor for international tribunals on the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. A referral must be made urgently, she said, “because crimes are continuing, and the number of victims is increasing day to day. Justice must be done.”

The report released Monday is to be discussed in the Human Rights Council in March, when member nations appear likely to extend the commission’s mandate. Diplomats in Geneva point out that the panel is the only U.N.-mandated machinery shedding a spotlight on abuses, and that its reports provide the most comprehensive and factual account of how Syria’s conflict is being waged.

In their latest report, based on 445 interviews, the investigators said they had found credible evidence of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by both government and opposition forces in

the six months to mid-January. The report cited accounts of massacres, summary executions, torture, attacks on civilians, sexual violence and abuses against children.

Pro-government forces committed massacres in August in Daraya, where more than 100 people, including women and children, reportedly died, and in Harak in the Daraa governorate, where witnesses said more than 500 civilians had been killed.

Government forces involved in Harak included the Syrian army as well as military and political intelligence units, the report said, noting that they may have been accompanied by members of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps. The panel said it was still investigating other reports of mass killings.

Drawing on the accounts of defectors and “insiders,” the report said government forces had deliberately targeted civilians to punish people in areas seen as supporting the opposition. Neighborhoods in Damascus have been destroyed by government forces, and bread lines in several towns have been targeted when the concentration of civilians would be at their highest.

conflict, by empowering Islamist militant groups such as the Al Nusra Front, “and even encouraged mainstream insurgents to join them owing to their superior logistical and operational capabilities.”

The report added that “regional and international actors hampered the prospects of a negotiated settlement owing to their divergent interests. The position of key international actors remains unchanged.”

Panel members said Monday that their ability to report on activities of the opposition was seriously hampered by what they called the Assad government’s persistent refusal to give its investigators access to Syria.

The panel said last year that it had already accumulated a “formidable and extraordinary body of evidence” against those responsible for war crimes, and it again said that it would provide the U.N. human rights office with the names of leaders who may be responsible for abuses, as well as the individuals and units that carried them out.

Release of the latest report came against a backdrop of what appeared to be part of a new public relations effort by Assad to present

Authority to make such a referral lies exclusively with the Security Council or the country concerned.

“Indiscriminate and widespread shelling, the regular bombardment of cities, mass killing, indiscriminate firing on civilian targets, firing on civilian gatherings and a protracted campaign of shelling and sniping on civilian areas have characterized the conduct of the government,” the panel said.

Investigators also cited “credible admissions against their own interest” by witnesses of the mass killing of five members of one family whose execution was filmed and posted on the Internet. They said a member of the rebel Free Syrian Army had acknowledged that his brigade captured and executed five Alawites, members of the Shiite Muslim minority that provides the bedrock of support for President Bashar Assad.

The panel expressed particular concern over “an increase in acts of unrestrained violence” associated with the proliferation of armed groups that appeared to serve no strategic purpose but to foment sectarian tensions and spread terror among civilians. The report warned that “this trend risks becoming a malignant feature of the conflict.”

It also said that foreign intervention had helped radicalize the

himself as an empathetic leader who believes his enemies are losing the war, in interviews that seemed to ignore a string of tactical and logistical setbacks suffered by his side.

Last week insurgents claimed to have captured Syria’s largest hydropower dam, important oil fields in the northeast, an airfield full of usable warplanes and troves of other weapons, corroborating their claims with videos posted on the Internet. Syria’s state-run news media has said nothing of these claims.

An article published Monday by Al-Quds, a London-based pan-Arab daily newspaper, quoted Assad as telling a recent delegation of Jordanians to Damascus, “Those who oppose Bashar, seek to destroy Syria and talk about me forget an essential truth, which is: I am human, made of blood and flesh, at the end of the day.”

In a separate audience with visiting Lebanese politicians, reported by the pro-Assad Lebanese newspaper As-Safir, Assad was quoted as saying, “We are sure we will win, we are reassured by the political and military developments,” according to a translation of the article by Agence France-Presse.

Solution to Triplet Techdoku I

from page 6

3	2	1
2	1	3
1	3	2

Solution to Triplet Techdoku II

from page 6

2	1	3
1	3	2
3	2	1

Solution to Triplet Techdoku III

from page 6

2	3	1
1	2	3
3	1	2

Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

7	4	9	6	3	5	8	2	1
3	8	2	4	1	9	7	5	6
1	6	5	2	8	7	9	4	3
8	5	1	9	4	6	3	7	2
6	3	4	8	7	2	5	1	9
9	2	7	3	5	1	6	8	4
4	9	6	5	2	8	1	3	7
5	7	3	1	9	4	2	6	8
2	1	8	7	6	3	4	9	5

Solution to Techdoku

from page 6

2	6	4	3	5	1
4	2	6	5	1	3
3	1	5	4	6	2
5	3	1	6	2	4
1	5	3	2	4	6
6	4	2	1	3	5

Solution to Crossword

from page 5

P	R	E	D	I	C	T	A	L	A	B	A	M	A
R	E	V	E	N	U	E	R	E	P	O	M	A	N
O	P	E	N	S	E	A	R	A	P	P	O	R	T
M	O	N	T	H	M	A	K	E	S	U	R	E	
O	R	E	A	R	M	E	N	I	A	N	Y	C	
S	T	R	A	P	H	A	N	G	E	R	T	I	E
			R	E	O	R	D	E	R	S			
M	A	C	K							E	D	G	E
A	L	A		S	P	A	C	E	B	A	R		
R	E	P		A	U	T	O	I	D	A	C	T	S
I	I			U	N	T	R	O	T	H			
A	C	T	I	N	G	U	P		E	R	A	S	E
C	H	A	S	T	E	N		C	A	R	O	U	S
H	E	L	L	E	N	E		P	L	E	A	S	E
I	M	P	A	R	T	S		R	E	D	R	E	S



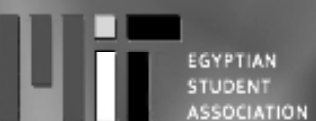
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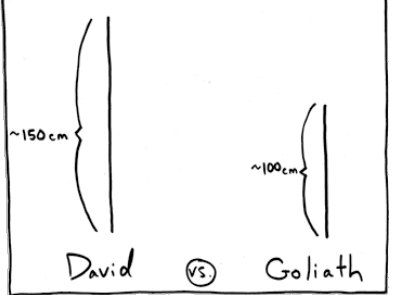
8:30pm-12:30am

ID required for cash bar



SMBC, from Page 6

Shoulder to projectile distance




David vs. Goliath

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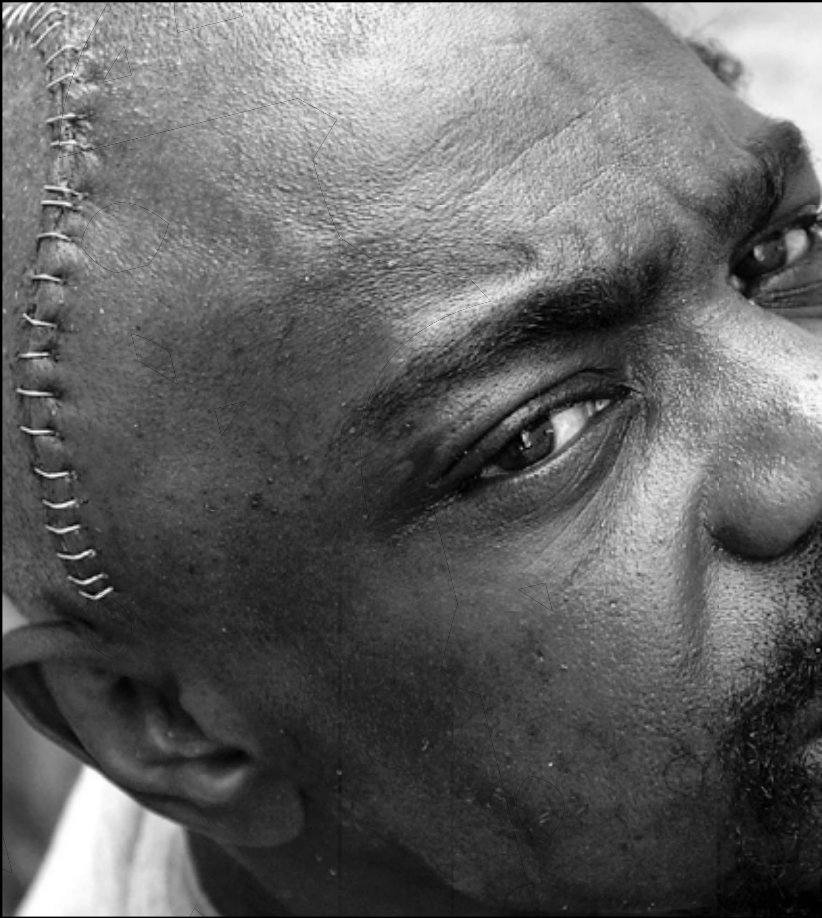
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Engineers take 6 events out of 7

MIT men's swimming team builds on their previous lead in the NEWMAC swimming and diving championship

By Charlotte Brackett
DAPER STAFF

With day two of the 2013 New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Swimming and Diving championships completed, the MIT men's team held on to the lead that they had established the day before. The Engineers won six of the seven events, bringing their point total to 750. Springfield College took over the second place spot with 438 points.

In the consolation final of the 200-yard medley relay, the MIT B relay touched first with a time of 1:31.98, just half a second off the

NEWMAC meet record of 1:31.41. The A relay, that consisted of Bradley A. Mattix '16, Benjamin R. Bauchwitz '15, Wyatt L. Ubellacker '13 and Kale T. Rogers '16 won the championship final with a time of 1:30.42. The relay easily broke their own NEWMAC meet record of 1:31.41 that had remained untouched since 2009 and earned an NCAA A cut.

With his time of 3:58.17 in the 400-yard individual medley, Alexander I. Lednev '16 broke the NEWMAC meet record of 4:01.05 and the NEWMAC open record of 3:59.64, both from 2012, finishing well under the B cut. Remy A. Mock '14 was second with his time of 4:04.36.

MIT placed five swimmers in the top eight in the 100-yard butterfly, taking the top four spots. Ubellacker touched first in 48.82, breaking his own meet record of 49.15 from 2011 and finishing well under the A cut. Sean R. Corcoran '16 came in second with a 49.83

Brendan T. Deveney '13 won his second individual title of the weekend when he touched first in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:39.87, just off the meet record and the NCAA A cut. Anthony Chen '13 followed in second place in 1:41.10. Both easily earned B cuts. Maxwell T. Pruner '13 finished in fourth with a 1:41.63, and Daryl G. Neubieser '15 came in fifth place with his

time of 1:42.90.

In the next event, the 100-yard breaststroke, Bauchwitz earned a B cut with his time of 57.27, which placed him second. Dion W. Low '16 followed in third place with a 57.74, also earning a B cut. Brendon W. Chiu '15 came in fourth with a 57.84, and Michael J. Liao '14 was fifth with his 57.91.

Mattix finished in first place in the 100-yard backstroke with his time of 50.40, breaking the NEWMAC meet record of 50.66 that had remained untouched since 2005. Ron Rosenberg '13 came in second with a 51.37, and Corcoran was fourth with a 51.84.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Thursday, February 21

Men's Tennis

3 p.m. DuPont Tennis Courts

An Evening with

Jim Gaffigan

8pm Friday, Feb. 22
Kresge Auditorium

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MIT Birthright, Summer 2012

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